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Bangalore Mirror

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IT'S A HARD LIFE

No retiring for elderly women in city

PAGE 2

MAN ON MISSION

B'lurean makes city roads safer

PAGE 5

BBMP's lake dept needs at least 600 guards to watch over its 150 lakes, but as of now only 450 are available and their pay is too little, too late

TOO FEW GOOD (WO)MEN

Activist says working conditions are not up to the mark as well, especially for women

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Lake Department of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is short of hands to provide security at city lakes. According to the officials, the department is short of home guards to be appointed at the nearly 150 water bodies that fall under the purview of and are developed by the civic body.

Currently, there are 450 home guards to man around 150 waterbodies in the city.

BBMP posts home guards at lakes in three shifts. For a standard-size lake, the requirement is a minimum of four to five home guards, all three shifts combined. However, for a big water body spread beyond 60 to 70 acres, a minimum of five home guards per shift is needed.

"Our current requirement is for nearly 600 home guards. However, the state home guard department has stopped providing more manpower after they withdrew many during the elections. We are short-staffed and looking at increasing the number of home guards at the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

File photo of a fishkill at a lake in Bengaluru. Often, as there is no one to watch over lakes, it is the walkers or visitors who spot such incidents

> **"The state home guard department has stopped providing more manpower after they withdrew many during the elections. We are short-staffed and looking at increasing the number of home guards**
>
> – Senior official from BBMP's Lake Department

Under pressure

Why sexual harassment complaints are often withdrawn

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On June 10, a woman filed a non-cognizable report at Mahadevapura police station regarding physical violence inflicted on her by her friends. The complainant claimed that at a house party, her friends hit her and one of them tried to sexually assault her, while they were intoxicated. In the complaint filed by her, a copy of which is with BM, she states that she wants the accused to be severely punished for harassing a woman.

However, when BM contacted her again on June 12, she said that she had taken back the complaint and reached an 'internal settlement' with the accused. "The people involved in the case apologised to me and I didn't want to take this matter forward, so I took back my complaint and my parents suggested I do that too," she said.

This isn't a one-off occurrence, police say. They have seen multiple cases of sexual harassment where the victim later takes back her complaint a few days of reporting the incident.

Advocate Shilpa Prasad says that women have to go through several systematic hurdles when they file a sexual harassment

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Grab seats

Visit an evening of music, humour, and entertainment this Saturday in Jayanagar. 'Raaga Sanje' is bringing artists such as Dr Mala Murlidhar, a versatile singer; Vidushi Soumya Shivprasad, an Akashavani singer; Guru Rao, a junior SPB; Achutha Rao Padaki, a humorist; and more to one single platform.
Where: Shree Jayarama Seva Mandali, 1st Main Road, 8th Block, Jayanagar
When: Saturday, June 17; 5:30 pm

02 Talent day

One of the most happening malls in Bengaluru is offering the opportunity to participate in order to boost your confidence and to star on the small screen. Nexus Talent Hunt unveils a ramp-walking chance to let you shine and showcase your unique talent. Selected kid will get the chance to star in an upcoming short film.

Where: Nexus Koramangala Mall
When: June 17; 6 pm onwards

03 Screen time

The National Gallery of Modern Art, Bengaluru (Ministry of Culture, Government of India) is screening the documentaries to celebrate World Environment Day this Friday. The films to be screened are A Sinking Lifeline and Whose Climate Is It Anyway.
Where: auditorium, National Gallery of Modern At, #49, Manikyavelu Mansion, Palace Road
When: Friday, June 16; 4:30 pm

Unveiling silent struggles of senior women at work

49% of B'luru's elderly women agree elder abuse exists in society: report

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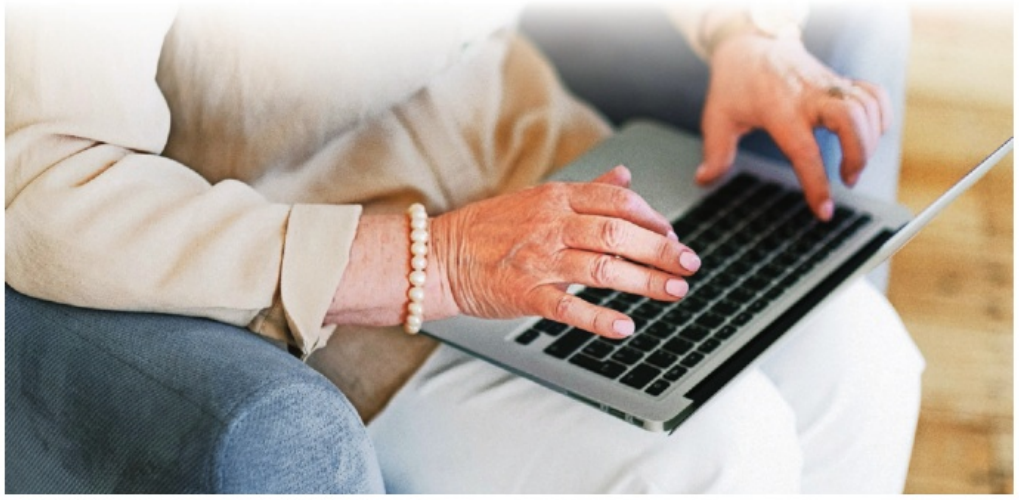

Thirty-three per cent of senior women are engaged in full-time or part-time employment in Bengaluru, while 66 per cent of older women do not work. About 85 per cent of senior women who work say that they work in an employment-friendly atmosphere, said a recent report prepared by HelpAge India.

The report, 'Women and Ageing: Invisible or Empowered?' is on the eve of UN-recognised World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. The report was recently released by Dr Manjula N, secretary of the department of Women and Child Development and the department of Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens.

The report stated that 65 per cent of elderly women feel financially secure due to the support extended by their family and government pensions. On the issue of elderly abuse, 49 per cent agree that elder abuse exists in society, even as only 16 per cent of elder women in Bengaluru admit that they have suffered some form of abuse from the hands of their sons, daughters-in-laws, and other relatives.

In Karnataka (barring Bengaluru), about 55 per cent of older women are engaged in some sort of employment, among the highest employment figures in the 60 to 90-year-old age group in India. At least 98 per cent of Karnataka's elderly women (almost 100 per cent) say that their workplace is pro-senior citizens and extremely supportive of them. About 58 per cent of women in the state say that they feel financially secure due to support from their family members.

A first-of-its-kind report focuses only on older women, who are often the lost and the last in line where their needs and rights are concerned. Furthermore, the report has explored aspects of elder abuse and discrimination, access and ownership of older women to financial resources, employment and employability, health care, social and digital inclusion, safety and security, awareness and use of redressal mechanisms, and others.

"It is stark reality that women, as they get older, tend to become neglected and are often invisible. The report points out the gender inequality gap –Rohit Prasad

The survey was conducted by a professional research agency, Ipsos Research Private Limited.

The report was spread across the length and breadth of the country, covering both rural and urban India across 20 states, including Karnataka, 2 UTs, and 5 metro cities, including Bengaluru, with a national sample size of 7,911 across various socio-economic categories. The sample size in Karnataka, including Bengaluru, was 578 elderly women.

"It is a stark reality that women, as they get older, tend to become neglected and are often invisible. Women aged 60 and over comprise 11 per cent of the total female population (seven crore of 66 crore) in 2021, and it will become 14 per cent by 2031 (10 crore of 72 crore). The report highlights the gender inequality gap and the vulnerability that elderly women face nationally," said Rohit Prasad, CEO, HelpAge India.

It throws up some hard facts, such as that 54% are illiterate, 43% are widowed, 16% face abuse, 75% do not have any savings, and many feel financially insecure, he added.

Doctors support nobility, donate blood

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The National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) observed World Blood Donor Day (WBDD) on Wednesday under the theme 'Give blood, give plasma, share life, share often' to raise awareness about the importance of blood and plasma donation.

The Department of Transfusion Medicine and Haematology (TMH), NIMHANS, organised a series of activities throughout the day as part of the WBDD celebrations. A voluntary blood donation camp was held to encourage individuals to come forward and contribute to the noble cause. Over 91 medical staff members from NIMHANS came forward for the blood donation.

NIMHANS also gave way to a creative platform through a poster and slogan competition, inviting participants to showcase their artistic talents, create impactful messages, and inspire others to become regular donors.

Dr Vijay Kumawat, Associate Professor, department of TMH, said, "WBDD reminds us that every donation, no matter how small, has the potential to save a life. It is a day to acknowledge and thank those who have already made a difference while inspiring others to join this life-saving movement. NIMHANS has a blood bank under the department of TMH. When covid-19 hit, the blood donations had significantly come down. However, now we see it normalising."

PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

NIMHANS observed World Blood Donor Day

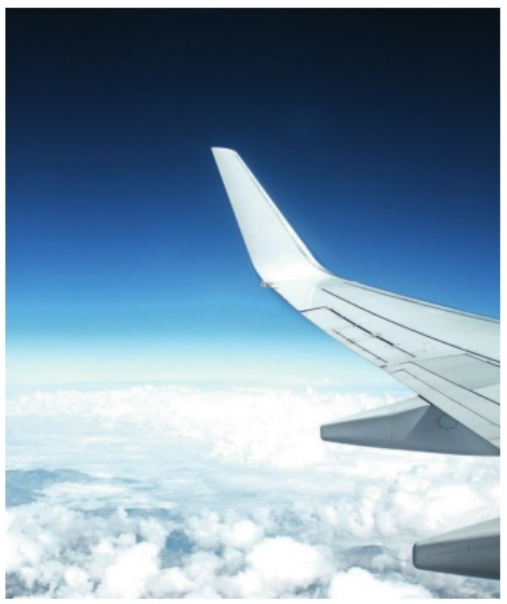
The donations have not increased yet, but they are much better than what they were during covid-19 times. Everyone should come forward and donate blood. It's not about donating just once; be a regular blood donor. A person can donate blood after every 3-4 months, he added.

India, like many other countries, continues to face a significant shortage in the availability of blood supplies. Recent statistics reveal that the demand for blood surpasses the supply by a considerable margin.

In another hospital, doctors paved the way for donors to donate blood. The Specialist Hospital organised a long blood donation camp in association with Manyata Voluntary Blood Centre, HBR Layout, wherein 100 doctors and nurses of the Specialist Hospital donated blood.

Dr Shafiq, CEO of Specialist Hospital, who was among the first batch of blood donors, said, "As healthcare professionals, we are well exposed to the life-saving impact of blood donation. A shortage of blood particularly impacts women and children. India has a huge requirement of around 5 crore units of blood for treatment of various medical ailments, and the supply-demand gap is almost half."

Travel agency takes family for a ride



After a family of five alleged that they had been cheated on the promise of a tour to four countries by a travel agency, an FIR has been registered against three persons of the company. The company is said to have ended up taking all the family members only to two of the promised countries.

The complainant John Paul is said to have met the receptionist of The Exodus Holidays Tours and Travels on May 10, who told him about the company. The travel agency is said to have promised the family of five a trip to four countries: Jordan, Israel, Palestine and Egypt for an attractive price of Rs 1,35,000 per person. This they said would cover the tourist visa, flight tickets, hotel stay and food expenses. An amount of Rs 6,75,000 was paid to the accountant of the company. The amount was paid in installments between in May via online and cash payment.

On the morning of May 28, the family left for Jordan. The agency provided them with stay and took them on a tour through the city, the FIR stated. Upon calling the agency in the night, the family was informed that visas of only two members, Anthony Bhagya Raj and Arul Das had been approved for Israel and Palestine. Food expenses were not handled by the travel agency and the family had to shell out from their pockets. The three others were asked to go to Cairo in Egypt, where they visited a few tourist locations. Once Anthony Bhagya Raj and Arul Das joined the family after their visit to Israel and Palestine, all five flew back to India on June 6.

An FIR has been registered against the receptionist, accountant and travel agent of the company at the Bharathi nagar police station.

Man stabs mother-in-law

A son-in-law is said to have stabbed his mother-in-law in Bellandur. The victim has been identified as Geeta. The accused son-in-law Manoj had gone to his in-laws' house in a fit of rage after he heard the allegation that he was harassing his wife Varshita. There was a quarrel between the mother-in-law and the son-in-law. As they were talking about it, the son-in-law stabbed Geeta and escaped. The Bellandur police have registered a case and have now arrested the accused. **BMB**

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Sticking to the plan

Mosque Road overbridge in Pulikeshinagar to be rebuilt according to original design; however, residents are unhappy with BBMP's plan to build tunnel

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

The Mosque Road overbridge in Pulikeshinagar, which was demolished months ago to be rebuilt as part of the Bengaluru Cantonment-KR Puram-Whitefield railway track by the South Western Railway (SWR), was initially accepted by the residents of Frazer Town. However, two days ago, they were surprised to see one part of the road dug up, thereby increasing the length of the overbridge to the end of the road. The residents opposed the move, saying the design had been altered.

On Wednesday, they held a meeting with MLA AC Srinivasa, along with SWR and Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) officials. Former corporator AR Zakir also joined the meeting and listened to the pleas of the residents.

The overbridge, which had been demolished, served as a major link for hundreds of commuters every day, connecting to Richards Town, Tannery Road, Clarence High School, Hennur, and other nearby localities.

The residents pointed out that as per the initial plan shown to them the officials had made it clear that the bridge would be reconstructed to the length of the old bridge. But they saw new markings on the road.

Nikhath from the Frazer Town Residents' Welfare Association (FTRWA) said, "During the meeting with the railway authorities, we were assured that they would stick to the plan. We even inspected the spot with the railway officials some months ago and they marked the spots, showing us the exact point till where the reconstructed bridge would come up. But without informing us, they dug the extended road. The residents living on Kumaraswamy Masjid Road and adjoining areas will face many difficulties. There will be no space for them to exit or enter their lanes. We are not against development, but this is hampering us."

Residents were surprised to see one part of the road being dug up, contradicting the original design

> **The tunnel will remain for now. However, if it causes inconvenience, a decision will be made in collaboration with BBMP to remove it. The dug-up road will be restored**
>
> – Former corporator AR Zakir

Saud Dastagir from FTRWA said that the recent development would affect the other junction where there are around three signals. "Due to the bridge, the length of the road will become smaller, and we assume that trees will be cut down to widen the road. We were not consulted about this," he said.

Apart from this, the residents pointed out that the BBMP has been constructing a tunnel for residents' access. However, it is of no use and can lead to 'illegal activities'.

The SWR engineer, project head, said, "The residents are of the view that due to the tunnel constructed, the height of the bridge has increased, and since it's tapering down, the length of the bridge is being increased. But it is the BBMP that is constructing the tunnel to provide access to the people. It is not causing any hindrance."

After long discussions, it has reportedly been decided that the bridge length will not be extended. MLA Srinivasa said, "The construction will be done according to the original plan."

Former corporator AR Zakir added, "The tunnel will remain for now. However, if it causes inconvenience, a decision will be made in collaboration with BBMP to remove it. The dug-up road will be restored over the week ahead."

198 flood-prone areas identified

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

With the monsoon officially entering Bengaluru, the focus is on preventing rain damage in the city.

According to estimates, there are 198 flood-prone areas in the city. Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said, "Currently, 198 flood-prone areas have been identified in Bengaluru. Out of these, 118 areas have been permanently dealt with, while temporary measures have been taken in the remaining 80 places. All the sensitive areas will be reviewed once again to ensure no damage occurs during heavy rainfall. We need to prioritise flood-prone areas and keep pumps on standby at sensitive locations to flush out water during severe waterlogging." He added that teams will be deployed with assistance from the forest wing to address tree fall issues. Officials have also been instructed to resolve complaints raised by citizens during rains.

There are 53 underpasses within BBMP limits and emergency work has been undertaken in 41 grade separators. The remaining 12 require immediate attention, and measures will be taken, informed Nath. CCTV cameras and lighting facilities will be installed at the underpasses, and meter gauges will be installed to measure the amount of rainwater flowing through them.

A car stuck in an underpass in Bengaluru

He mentioned that a meeting will soon be convened, headed by the BBMP administrator and Additional Chief Secretary of Urban Development, Rakesh Singh, with stakeholders such as BBMP, BMRCL, BESCOM, KPTCL, and GAIL. Currently, there is a lack of coordination between various agencies in managing the city's infrastructure such as cleaning of drains and disposing of debris on roads, and roads being dug up for laying pipes or wires. Therefore, this coordination committee will involve all stakeholders for multi-departmental coordination. Senior officials have been instructed to ensure there are no issues during rainfall and to regularly inspect rajakaluves, rain-affected areas, underpasses, and flyovers. If any issues arise, they must be addressed promptly.

Meanwhile, Namma Karnataka Weather has provided an update stating that although the Southwest Monsoon set in over coastal Karnataka on June 10, the rains have been mild so far. "Expect the monsoon to gain strength from June 20. Coastal areas like Mangaluru, Udupi, and Karwar can expect heavier monsoon rainfall during the last 10 days of June. Other areas that generally experience heavy rainfall, such as Talacauvery, Bhagamandala, Chikkamagaluru, and Agumbe, are likely to receive heavier rains from June 23. It appears that a low-pressure area over the Bay of Bengal and adjacent regions might form at that time, which would enhance the monsoon moisture pull over the ghats," the tweet said.

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Obstruction
BTM Layout

Leaves and litter in BTM Layout 2nd stage are blocking the footpath.

Stop the flow
Jayanagar

BWSSB manholes are overflowing just opposite Jain temple, 4th block Jayanagar, behind Upahara Darshini Hotel.

Cleaning needed
Mysore Bank Circle

The Rajkumar statue area right after Mysore Bank Circle towards Kempegowda bus depot needs sweeping.

Reflecting on road safety

Bengaluru man adds reflectors to dimly lit city roads with overhanging tree branches

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A Bengalurean has taken it upon himself to enhance road safety by adding reflectors to city roads amidst poor lighting and overhanging tree branches.

Driving in the city, particularly at night, can be quite challenging, especially when tree branches lean over the roads or when there are walls close to the road. Ideally, the city should have adequate bright lighting, and if not, reflectors should be installed to assist nighttime driving.

Not only is the man, who narrowly avoided an accident, investing his own money, but he is also hiring people to undertake this task.

Recently, several incidents occurred on Sadashivanagar Police Station Road, which prompted Vijay Arrawatia, a Regional Sales Manager, to take action. He told Bangalore Mirror, "While driving on the narrow road during rains, I failed to notice a large tree branch hanging over the road and ended up getting too close to it. A person on a bike behind me slipped. A similar incident occurred later when a lorry truck collided with the branch, causing a major traffic problem that lasted until the next day. This was when I realised that it was happening due to poor lighting. Luckily, in both incidents, there was no loss of life. But if no urgent measures were taken, it could lead to that."

Although it is the responsibility of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and the Forest Department to address such issues promptly, nothing was done on time. Hence, with the assistance and permission of the Sadashivnagar Traffic Police Station, Arrawatia launched his initiative.

"Branches were securely tied using safety reflector strips, which are flexible and do not harm the trees. Additionally, we wrapped strips around these branches, providing reflective visibility during rain, night, and day. This precautionary measure enables drivers to easily spot branches, thereby reducing the risk of accidents or injuries. The Sadashivnagar Traffic Police Station played a crucial role in facilitating this," said Arrawatia.

He said that he spent approximately Rs 16,000 to install these strips on three trees on Sadashiv Nagar Traffic Police Road and one tree near Basaveshwara Circle. Each reflector costs Rs 60 per metre, and about 60-70 metres were used on each tree, depending on its size. The workers who installed the lights charged Rs 500 for each tree.

"Another motive was to introduce strips for road safety purposes. The money spent thus far was primarily to promote the idea as a model initiated by me, and it's a great feeling to see it benefiting citizens. However, to implement this across the city, I would appreciate reimbursement from the government authorities responsible for this work and their permission to continue these efforts citywide," added Arrawatia.

Arrawatia is investing his own money and hiring people to undertake this task for better road safety

> **While driving on the narrow road during rains, I failed to notice a large tree and ended up getting too close to it**
>
> – Vijay Arrawatia

Bike taxi row: Government to approach HC

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The Karnataka government is gearing up to approach the High Court with a plea to revert its order restraining transport authorities from acting on bike taxi services being provided in Bengaluru. The case is likely to come up before next week. Senior officials from the transport department have met with law authorities to ensure that the stay is vacated at the earliest.

The government's move comes in light of the recent Supreme Court order. On Monday, the apex court set aside a Delhi High Court order, leading to the restoration of the ban imposed on bike taxis by the Delhi government until the government approves a policy framework for bike aggregators. The High Court had directed the Delhi government to not take any coercive action against bike taxis run by Uber and Rapido until it came up with a set of regulations specific to them.

Currently, in Karnataka, the government has allowed the operation of only e-bike taxis under the Karnataka Electric Bike Taxi Scheme, 2021. However, petrol-run bike taxis from Rapido and Uber can be seen plying around the city without the transport department doing much scrutiny, as the High Court in August 2021 directed them not to take "coercive action" against bike taxis after Rapido, a Bengaluru-based startup backed by Westbridge Capital and Nexus Venture Partners, which has been offering app-based bike taxi services in Bengaluru since 2016, filed a petition.

> **State govt to approach HC with plea to revert order restraining transport authorities from acting on bike taxi services in Bengaluru**

The question of whether bike taxis must be allowed to function resurfaced with much debate recently after an incident involving a 30-year-old woman jumping from a moving Rapido bike to save herself from the driver, who sexually harassed her and tried to take her to a different destination, was brought to light. Prior to this, in November 2022, a 22-year-old woman from Kerala had reportedly been gangraped by a bike taxi driver and his associate. Auto drivers in the city have also consistently been protesting against their functioning, claiming that they are eating away at their already scarce earnings.

IN BRIEF

Student held for 'assaulting' cop

A student has allegedly assaulted a police sub-inspector (PSI) at Peenya Police Station. Police allege that the attacker, Mounesh, is a medical student. Additionally, police allege that the accused, who came to make an inquiry, created a ruckus in front of the station along with his brother. However, this has been denied by the accused's father.

The accused resides in Kuvempunagar and used to attend college in Goraguntepalya. He boarded a BMTC bus and was required to show his pass to the conductor. Instead, he showed a xerox copy of the bus pass to him. When asked to present the original pass, he allegedly hit the conductor.

Subsequently, everyone on the bus brought the accused to Peenya Police Station. While the accused was seated inside the station, his brother arrived and allegedly caused a ruckus. It was during this time that the accused, who was sitting in the police station, attacked the PSI. Currently, police have taken him into custody. —BMB

Office-goer ends life after 'torture'

An employee of a private company reportedly died by suicide as he could not bear the torture meted out to him by his seniors. He recorded a video on his mobile phone, in which he detailed the harassment he was enduring, and uploaded it on YouTube. In the video, he expressed his exhaustion from the constant harassment and his decision to end his life by hanging.

According to sources, he hanged himself from the fan in his room and recorded the video in front of the noose.

HAL police arrived at the location, conducted an investigation, and have registered a case. They have arrested one senior official, Nitesh, and set a trap for the other two individuals who are also accused in the case. —BMB

Power tariff hikes take a toll

Electricity rate affects micro and small-scale industries; industrialists demand reduction of tax and want to meet Energy Minister to explain industry problems

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Micro and small-scale industrialists are facing a lot of problems due to the hike in power tariffs. They are up in arms against the 42 per cent hike in the power tariff. They said that they are set to shut down industries if the government fails to redress their grievances.

"The power tariff hike is affecting micro and small-scale industries. There are more than five lakh micro and small-scale industries in the state. I demand the state government roll back the power tariff hike in the interest of micro and small-scale industrialists," said Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association president KN Narasimha Murthy.

He added that he would be addressing the media on Thursday to narrate the problems of micro and small-scale industrialists and the need to roll back the power tariff hike for the survival of micro and small-scale industries in the state.

Expressing concern over the hike in power tariff, Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry president BV Gopal Reddy said that he wants the state government to reduce the tax on micro and small-scale industries.

"We have organised a webinar meeting for industrialists on Tuesday evening to discuss the hike in power tariffs. We want to meet the Energy Minister to explain the problems of micro and small-scale industrialists," he said.

Furthermore, the immediate past president of the North Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association, NS Biradar, said that he finds it difficult to pay the electricity bill.

"The Hubli Electricity Supply Company (HESCOM) has issued an electricity bill of Rs 2,63,921 for the month of May, as against an electricity bill of Rs 2,02,356 for the month of April. The difference amount is Rs 61,565. It is difficult for me to pay more than Rs 60,000 extra every month towards the electricity bill," said Biradar.

Registration for Gruha Jyoti

The state government is all set to begin the Gruha Jyoti scheme registration on June 18. The beneficiaries must register for the scheme on the Seva Sindhu portal under a special custom-made page for the scheme (https://sevasindhugs.karnataka.gov.in/gruhajyothi).
The same can be accessed from mobile phones, computers, and laptops. The beneficiaries will have to keep their Aadhaar cards and customer account IDs ready for their registration (as mentioned in the electricity bill). The registration can also be done at Bangalore One, Grama One, Karnataka One, or any electricity office. For further information, contact any electricity office or call the 24-hour helpline at 1912. The Gruha Jyoti scheme provides free electricity for every residential household in Karnataka whose monthly electricity usage is less than the average monthly consumption for the financial year 2022-23 + 10% and within the 200 unit limit. Consumers with a consumption of more than 200 units have to pay the bill in full. This initiative is expected to benefit around 2.14 crore households in the state. The scheme is set to be launched on August 1, 2023. The beneficiaries will get a 'zero bill' starting August 1 (for electricity usage in July) if usage is within their entitlement.

> **"We have discussed the power tariff hike with HESCOM's Managing Director, who assured us that he would revert after the State Cabinet meeting** –Mahadev Chogule

Other industrialists noted that there are around 2,000 micro and small-scale industries in Belagavi district.

"We have discussed the power tariff hike with HESCOM's Managing Director, who assured us to revert after the State Cabinet meeting, which is expected to take a decision on the rollback of the power tariff hike," said Mahadev Chogule, president of the Belagavi Small Scale Industries Association.

Meanwhile, Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) president Dr L Ravindran said that in order to fully leverage the government's focus on the 'Make in India' campaign, industries need sustained support from the government, and ensuring consistent power supply at affordable rates would definitely help the industry. "We firmly believe that it is essential to postpone any increase in power costs for a minimum of two years, taking into consideration the current growth in industrial output. Additionally, it is vital that bankers and financial institutions provide adequate assistance to overcome rising overheads and the impact of increased power costs," explained Dr Ravindran.

Migrant workers get crushed

Three migrant workers from Chhattisgarh were crushed to death after a JCB (earthmover) vehicle ran over them in Karnataka's Raichur district, police said on Wednesday.

The victims were identified as Vishnu (26), Shivaram (28), and Balram (30).

The incident took place late Tuesday night in Neelavanji village. According to the police, the victims were part of a team that came to the village to drill a borewell at a farm.

After the drilling, they slept on the mud road used to commute to the farm.

Unaware of their presence, the driver of the JCB vehicle mowed them to death.

Devadurga police have visited the spot and taken up the investigation. **–IANS**

Police extends security to veteran author

Karnataka Police on Wednesday said it has provided security to veteran Kannada author K Veerabhadrappa after he received 16 death threat letters.

It said that the District Police Reserve has provided an armed constable to guard Veerabhadrappa, popularly known as KumVee in the Kannada literary world.

Police sources said that a person has been taken into custody, and samples of his handwriting have been sent to the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL).

Talking about the police protection, Veerabhadrappa told the media: "I have not given much attention to the threats; I am involved in writing a book." Veerabhadrappa had returned an award conferred on him by the Sahitya Akademy for his novel 'Aramane' in 2008. **–IANS**

'Women should have agency to decide on complaint'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

complaint, both from the police as well as the internal complaints mechanism, if there is one. "On one hand the police delay filing an FIR in many circumstances when the woman comes with the complaint on the grounds that she should be approaching the ICC or local complaints committee, or that it does not constitute a cognisable offence. Their character is also dragged through the mud in the process. On the other hand, women face a lot of pressure from the family or the work place to withdraw the complaint. Or if the accused is from the same family, the pressure increases" she said. According to Prasad, women are also victimised and terminated from their workplace on the grounds of "false complaints" if the ICC finds the accused not guilty, even if it is for lack of evidence which is often very less in sexual harassment cases.

Advocate Arvind Narayan of ALF says this points to the unequal power dynamics. "It takes a lot for women to go to the police because the society would be against you. It might be possible that the victim is being threatened by the accused, in that context it is important that police guarantee victim protection. If somebody had withdrawn the complaint, there is a big possibility that it is because of inequality of power and the state needs to provide victim/witness protection."

Some experts BM spoke to said that not everyone has the means to go to the court and fight a case for years and so they should have the right to make a choice of taking back the complaint.

"The law says that if a Non-Cognizable Report is filed, the victim can take back the complaint if both parties have settled the matter between themselves, and the police should not be forcing her to register an FIR. It's not necessarily a bad thing to take back the complaint (NCR) if the victim is not being intimidated into doing so, because the legal processes take up a lot of time and not everybody has the money or the support system for that. But in many cases, a certain level of intimidation does happen from the accused, and the victim is forced to take the complaint back. But ultimately, it's the victim's choice to make the decision and the court and police should enable her to exercise her agency," says Bindu Doddahatti, Azim Premji University Bangalore.

Saxophonist from K'taka passes away

Renowned saxophonist Alevoor Sundar Sherigar died at his residence in Alevoor in Udupi district, on Wednesday.

Sherigar was 76. He is survived by a son and three daughters.

Sherigar was the first to train students to play the saxophone in Udupi. He has taught thousands of students to play the instrument in the Udupi-Mangaluru region.

Students trained by Sherigar are currently performing at national and international levels. His granddaughter, Pooja Devadiga, trained by him, is a famous saxophonist in Mumbai.

He had received an honorary doctorate degree from the International Virtual Peace University. **–PTI**

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Biparjoy: 50,000 people evacuated in Gujarat

All hands on deck to brace for impact as cyclone to make landfall today

NDRF personnel at the Mandvi beach ahead of the landfall of Biparjoy cyclone, in Kutch district on Wednesday

#AHMEDABAD/MANDVI/NEW DELHI

As powerful cyclone 'Biparjoy' approaches the Gujarat coast, authorities have evacuated 50,000 people from vulnerable areas in a massive operation and deployed disaster management personnel for relief and rescue measures in the state set to be most impacted by the second storm to hit it in just two years, officials said on Wednesday.

With the cyclone, expected to make landfall near Jakhau port in Kutch district on Thursday evening, barrelling towards the Gujarat coast, parts of the Saurashtra-Kutch region received heavy rains accompanied by strong winds.

Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel took stock of the situation with senior officers, while at the central level, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh separately reviewed the preparedness to deal with the impact of the cyclone.

Nine talukas in Devbhumi Dwarka, Jamnagar, Junagadh, Porbandar and Rajkot districts received more than 50 mm of rainfall in the 24 hours ending on Wednesday morning.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) said Biparjoy was set to change the path on Wednesday and begin moving north-eastwards towards Kutch and Saurashtra but it will still have landfall as a very severe cyclonic storm with wind speed ranging from 125-135 kmph, gusting to 145 kmph from morning to evening on Thursday.

The Gujarat government has undertaken a massive exercise to evacuate people living in villages within a 10 km radius of the coast, with a special focus on Kutch which is likely to be worst affected by the cyclone, and move them to temporary shelters.

Evacuation is in progress and is expected to be completed by Wednesday evening, officials said. "The cyclone is nearly 290 km away from Kutch at present. As a precautionary measure, we have shifted nearly 50,000 people living in coastal areas to temporary shelters. The evacuation process is on and the remaining 5,000 persons will be shifted by this evening," said State Commissioner of Relief, Alok Kumar Pandey.

Of the 50,000-odd evacuees, nearly 18,000 people were shifted to shelters in Kutch district while others were evacuated from Junagadh, Jamnagar, Porbandar, Devbhumi Dwarka, Morbi and Rajkot, Pandey told reporters in Gandhinagar.

He said 18 teams of NDRF (National Disaster Response Force), 12 teams of SDRF (State Disaster Response Force), 115 teams of state road and building department, and 397 teams of the state electricity department have been deployed in different coastal districts.

"Officials of departments of Electricity and Road & Building have also reached designated spots to restore connectivity and power supply. We have also deployed teams carrying HAM Radio sets and satellite phones in the coastal region for better communication," said Pandey.

Chief Minister Patel held a meeting with the state chief secretary and senior officers at the State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC) and reviewed preparedness. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh spoke to the three service chiefs and reviewed the preparations of the armed forces to deal with the impact of the cyclone. After reviewing the preparations, Singh said the armed forces are ready to provide every possible assistance to civil authorities in tackling any situation or contingency that may arise due to the cyclone.

Union Health Minister Mandaviya reviewed the preparedness measures being taken in Kutch. **-PTI**

9 killed in unrest in Manipur

#IMPHAL

At least nine people were shot dead in Manipur, officials said Wednesday -- the latest incident in weeks of violence sparked by long-standing ethnic tensions.

Manipur saw days of deadly clashes in May, prompted by a dispute over access to government jobs and other perks.

More than 100 have died in the resulting unrest, during which mobs raided police stations and stole weapons, while tens of thousands of others fled their homes to seek safety. Unidentified gunmen stormed Kamenlok village on the outskirts of state capital Imphal late Tuesday and shot indiscriminately at houses using "sophisticated weapons", Manipur government information officer Heisnam Balakrishna told AFP.

"Nine persons including a woman was killed during the firing," he added.

Ten others were injured in the attack and were taken to a hospital in Imphal for treatment.

Security personnel, at Khamenlok area in Imphal

Another nine people were injured in a separate attack on Monday in the same village, according to police.

Tensions in the state came to a head last month between the majority Meitei, who are mostly Hindus and live in and around Imphal, and the mainly Christian Kuki tribe in the surrounding hills.

The Kuki community had protested Meitei demands for reserved public job quotas and college admissions as a form of affirmative action. **-AFP**

No rice, wheat to states from Centre

The Centre has discontinued the sale of rice and wheat from the central pool under the Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) to state governments, a move that will hit some states, including Karnataka, offering free grains to the poor.

This decision has already been conveyed to the Karnataka government, which had sought 13,819 tonne of rice for its own scheme under the OMSS without e-auction for July at the rate of Rs 3,400 per quintal.

According to a recent order issued by the Food Corporation of India (FCI), "The sale of wheat and rice under the OMSS(domestic) for state governments is discontinued".

However, the sale of rice under the OMSS will be continued for northeastern states, hilly states and states facing law and order situations, natural calamities at an existing rate of Rs 3,400 per quintal, it said.

FCI may liquidate rice under the OMSS to private parties from the central pool stock as per the requirement in order to moderate the market prices, it added. **-PTI**

NEET: 2 students top with full marks

#NEW DELHI

National Testing Agency (NTA) has declared the result of the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test-Undergraduate (NEET UG) on Tuesday. Prabhanjan J of Tamil Nadu and Bora Varun Chakravarthi of Andhra Pradesh have topped the exam with 720/720 marks or 99.99 percentile. Among the states, Uttar Pradesh has the highest number of qualifying candidates followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan.
Admission to MBBS as well as UG medical programmes like BDS, AYUSH courses, BHMS, BAMS, BUMS, BVSc and AH is done through NEET. Aspirants who appeared in the NEET exam can check their results on the official website. **-IANS**

Telugu girl stabbed in London's Wembley dies

#LONDON

A Telugu student was stabbed in a tragic incident in London's Wembley on Tuesday.

The deceased, Tejaswini Reddy had apparently gone to London for higher studies where she was attacked with a knife. The incident, according to the London Metropolitan Police, happened on June 13.

Additionally, a 28-year-old woman was also stabbed. She was hurt and taken to a hospital, where it is stated that she is now out of danger. According to an official statement of London's Metropolitan Police Service, a 23-year-old man, who officers previously named publicly, was located in Harrow at around 18:00hrs on Tuesday (yesterday). The Metropolitan Police said the man was arrested on murder charges and taken into custody at a north London police station. It all happened following a fatal stabbing in Wembley which occured at 09:59hrs on Tuesday (June 13) to reports of a stabbing at a residential property in Neeld Crescent in London.

"Officers attended with the London Ambulance Service and two women were treated for stab injuries. Despite the efforts of emergency services, a 27-year-old woman sadly died at the scene. Her next of kin have been informed," London's Metropolitan Police Service said in a release. A relative of Tejasvini in Hyderabad, Vijay said, "She is my cousin. My other cousin also stayed there. They used to stay together, however, he moved out as the distance from his job was far from the accommodation." **-ANI**

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Lakes can't afford to let guard down

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lakes," said a senior official from BBMP's Lake Department.

Lake activists in the city say many water bodies revived by BBMP have gaps when it comes to the safety and security of walkers and lakes' biodiversity. This makes deployment of sufficient home guards even more important.

"I visited nearly 10 lakes in south Bengaluru over the last couple of weeks and could not find a single home guard at any of these water bodies. People start misusing the lake area and damaging the biodiversity in the absence of home guards. Security at the lakes is important to preserve the ecology.

Moreover, many rejuvenated lakes are not completely fenced, and thus having sufficient home guards is imperative," said Raghavendra B Pachhapur, a city-based lake activist.

Guards complain of pay disparity

Guards posted at various lakes in the city say home guards are reluctant to join the Lake Department due to pay disparity and frequent payment delays.

According to a home guard posted at a city lake, their wage for the last month is pending yet again.

"This is a regular occurrence. We receive our salaries only after a couple of months," said the home guard on condition of anonymity.

However, according to BBMP officials, the finance department has already sent the file for approval and salaries will be accrued within a week.

"Home guards' salaries for May are pending. However, the file has already been sent for approval and compensation will be credited to their accounts by June 15. The delay is due to the change in government," said the official. The BBMP Lake department pays Rs 455 a day for a shift of eight hours.

Activists say that given the minimum wage and lack of job security, many lose interest in working.

"They are least interested in coming into work and doing a good job. Many home guards at various lakes have expressed that they prefer to join other departments due to pay disparity. While the BBMP Lake department compensates them with just Rs 455 a day, they get Rs 750 a day from the police department. Moreover, their working conditions are not up to the mark as well. Women guards face a lot of difficulties as many lakes still do not have public toilets," said a city-based citizen activist.

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I, SUNIL KUMAR R/at No.10, 2nd Floor Padmanav Das Aakruthi Pro Speara Bhuvaneswari Nagar Amruthahalli Bangalore-560092, have changed my name to SUNIL OVERAY vide affidavit dated: 13/6/2023 Before Notary V.Rajashekhara Bangalore.

I Julia Robin D/o Pani Finuel aged about 33 Years R/at No.22, 5th Cross, Kk Halli, St.thomas Town Post, B'luru-560084 Have Changed My Name to Julia Finuel Vide Affidavit Dtd: 13/06/2023 Sworn Before Notary Uday Kumar K, B'luru

I Mandanna Bhavani Poonacha Pasura W/O, Poonacha P M R/o No 2p Shettihalli Main Road Vinayaka Layout Abbigere Chikkabanavara Bangalore 560090 have changed my name to Bhavani N C

I, Lokesh Ramesh, #2, 1st Main, 1st Cross, Vidhana Soudha layout, Laggere, Bangaluru-560058. changed my name from Lokesh Ramesh Ramesh kumar to Lokesh Ramesh for all purposes Dtd: 13/6/2023 sworn before notary P C Ramaiah

I Santhosh Marthappa Kamath S/o Marthappa Srinivas Kamath R/o A/3-205, Ganga Block, Natonal Games Village, Koramangala B'luru 560047 have changed my name to Santhosh Kamath for all purposes.

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I Retikaa Manoj Menon R/o Dph2, Mantri Greens, Sampige Rd, Malleshwaram, Bangalore-560003 have changed my name to Reetikaa Manoj Menon

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Our daily bread

Bread may be considered ultra-processed food, but that doesn't mean it's all bad

Humans have been eating bread in some form for centuries. But modern bread is a far cry from the bread of the past.

In its sliced bread form, it often contains so many more ingredients than the kind our ancestors were eating that it is now widely considered an ultra-processed food. But, this doesn't necessarily mean it's bad for us.

There are many definitions of what makes a food ultra-processed. The most commonly used one is the Nova classification, which was developed by researchers at the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil. This separates foods into four groups.

The first group includes unrefined or minimally processed foods such as vegetables or meat with no additives. Second are culinary ingredients which have come from natural sources, but have been milled or processed to make them easier to cook with or edible – such as flour.

The third group covers processed foods. These are made by combining ingredients, including fats, sugar and salt. Examples include homemade or bakery breads. The last are ultra-processed foods. These are either industrially processed in a factory or include ingredients not typically used in the home, such as additives like emulsifiers.

Since most sliced bread is made using the Chorleywood process, this would technically make it an ultra-processed food. The Chorleywood process was invented in the 1960s to produce bread faster on an industrial scale.

The process involves using more rapid mixing and more yeast, along with the addition of solid fats, emulsifiers and ascorbic acid (vitamin C). This allows more water and lower-protein flours to be used in the bread-making process, alongside the use of a vacuum to control the proving process. This creates the soft, fluffy bread we buy from the supermarket.

Although this process has enabled affordable, consistent bread, there are growing concerns about how healthy it actually is because it's ultra-processed. This concern has partly been fuelled by mounting evidence showing a link between ultra-processed foods and health problems including heart disease, type 2 diabetes and some cancers.

However, researchers still don't know if eating ultra-processed foods directly causes these health conditions. Nor do they know if only specific ingredients within these foods are to blame.

Bread's position as an unhealthy, ultra-processed food has also been challenged. Some researchers argue the Nova classification's definition of "ultra-processed" is oversimplified, leading many foods to be lumped into the same category despite containing vastly different ingredients and going through different processing methods.

It's true supermarket bread contains emulsifiers, which have been linked with health problems, including a potentially increased risk of developing some cancers. But typically bread only uses mono- or diglyceride fatty acids as emulsifiers, which have not been linked to risk of disease.

It's also worth noting that during the long fermentation processes used in traditional bread making, similar compounds to these two emulsifiers will actually be made by the yeasts and bacteria. These emulsifiers are used to improve the texture and, alongside hard fats (such as palm oil), help extend the bread's shelf life.

Besides, the most important issue might not be whether the bread is classed as ultra-processed or not. The levels of salt in shop-bought bread could be more of a problem. Salt is used to even out how bread rises and give a consistent texture.

But the amount of salt in different brands of bread can vary from a teaspoon per loaf (similar to most homemade recipes) to four teaspoons per loaf. Look out for sodium levels on the label, and aim to purchase bread with less than 0.7g of salt per 100g (or 0.3g of sodium per 100g).

And, despite similar concerns, the sugar in modern supermarket bread may not be as bad as many think. Sugar is used to help the yeast ferment and rise before baking. As such, most bread contains 2g-4g of sugar per 100g. Some of this actually naturally occurs as a result of the proving process. However, this may vary depending on the brand.

Other considerations

So, it's likely that the ultra-processed way bread is made might not be as big an issue to our health as some think – although the salt content in some loaves might be. Brown bread (such as wholemeal or wholegrain) goes through a similar production process as white bread. The main difference is that it may have some fibre either retained or added back into the flour.

Fibre is important for maintaining healthy bowels. Bread (and even flat breads or pitta) which contains seeds or bits of grain may also have the added benefit of taking longer to digest. This can help to make you feel fuller longer.

Sourdough is another favoured option, with many saying it's healthier because it uses more traditional baking processes. There is evidence that traditional French breads, which are slowly fermented and made with a sourdough starter, raise blood glucose (sugar) and insulin levels less than typical sliced loaves. As with higher fibre versions, this could mean they keep us feeling fuller for longer.

But many supermarket breads labelled "sourdough" may not be traditionally made. One of the problems is a lack of legally recognised definition for soughdough bread. In some countries it can only contain flour, water and salt (maybe with a little oil), but in others it can contain yeast to speed up fermentation and proving – and even additives. So if you're looking for a real, traditional sourdough loaf, check that it only contains flour, water and salt.

Although supermarket bread may be classified as ultra-processed, that doesn't mean you can't include it as part of a balanced diet. Just be sure to think about what you're putting on your toast. A sausage sandwich is less healthy than topping your toast with tinned tomatoes or baked beans.

(By Duane Mellor, Aston University, The Conversation)

MIRRORLIGHTS

Data from brain waves may predict cognitive issues in Parkinson's: Study

A study led by an Indian-American researcher has found that a few minutes of data recorded from a single electrode placed on top of the head may be sufficient to predict thinking problems, including dementia, in patients with Parkinson's disease.

Nandakumar Narayanan from the University of Iowa and his team of scientists believe that the new finding can help improve diagnosis of cognitive disability in Parkinson's disease (PD).

In addition, it can develop new biomarkers and targeted therapies for cognitive symptoms of the disease. Cognitive decline, including dementia, is a significant and underappreciated symptom of Parkinson's disease.

According to Narayanan, around 30 per cent of patients can have cognitive symptoms at the beginning of the disease, and up to 80 per cent will have cognitive problems at some point in their disease.

"Although we have quite a few effective treatments for the motor symptoms of Parkinson's, including medical therapies and deep brain stimulation, we have very few treatments for the cognitive aspects of Parkinson's disease," said Narayanan, MD, PhD, associate professor of neurology at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine.

The findings of the study, published in the Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery & Psychiatry, said that EEG (electroencephalography), an inexpensive and non-invasive technology, might be useful for diagnosing cognitive impairment in PD patients.

—IANS

PVR
REX | NEXUS | ORION | VAISHNAVI | VEGA | REGALIA | ARENA | GT MARKETCITY | AURA | VR | SPIRIT | UPTOWN | GLOBAL | BHARTIYA
KIN CINEMAS SEEGEHALLI
MARATHALLI
INOX
MANTRI | CENTRAL | GARUDA | YELAHANKA | SWAGATH BROOKFIELD | LIDO | RMZ | NEXUS NEIGHBOURHOOD
ROCKLINE JALAHALLI
MUKTA A2 UTHARAHALLI
Cinépolis
ETA | MEENAKSHI | ORION EAST SJR | LULU | SHANTINIKETAN
GOPALAN ARCADE | LEGACY | GRAND SIGNATURE | INNOVATION
CINEPHILE HSR LAYOUT
MIRAJ SUNKADAKATTE
SANTOSH K.G.ROAD | NARTHAKI K.G.ROAD | VEERESH MAGADI RD | URVASHI LALBAGH RD
VICTORY CINEMAS MAGADI ROAD | CAUVERY SANKEY RD | PRASANNA MAGADI ROAD
THULASI MARATHALLI | MUKUNDA SEVANAGAR | ANJAN MAGADI RD | SIDDHESHWARA J.P.NAGAR | ESHWARI KATTRIGUPPE | VAIBHAV SANJAYNAGAR | RADHAKRISHNA R.T.NAGAR | VENKATESHWARA AVALAHALLI | SRINIVASA GOWDANAPALYA | BALAJI TAVAREKERE | LAKSHMI TAVAREKERE | SRINIVASA S.G.PALYA | ROBIN KENGERI | MARUTI RAJGOPALNAGAR | VENKATESHWARA KENGERI | V CINEMAS GARUDACHARPALYA
VENKATESHWARA KONAPPANA AGRAHARA | TIRUMALA AGARA | MANASA KONANKUNTE
SANDHYA MADIWALA | BRUNDA HONGASANDRA | LAKSHMI RAMMURTHYNAGAR
BHARATHI PEENYA | VEERABHADRESHWARA KAMALANAGAR | ASHOKA CHIKBANAVAR
RAJ MURALI KODIGEHALLI | SRINIVASA KADUGUDI | PUSHPANJALI B.N.PURA
BALAJI DOMMASANDRA | LAKSHMI GOTTIGERE | MAHADESHWARA KADIRENAHALLI
VENKATESHWARA GOLLARAHATTI | ARUNA SRI RAMPURAM | RAVI EJIPURA
SAMPIGE MALLESHWARAM | SAVITHA MALLESHWARAM | BALAJI CHIKKALASANDRA
VAINIDHI SINGAPURA | SLN HESARAGHATTA | AND OTHER CINEMAS | DAILY 4 SHOWS 10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30
ADIPURUSH
IN HINDI · TELUGU · TAMIL · KANNADA · MALAYALAM
IN THEATRES TOMORROW
ENTIRE KARNATAKA
KRG Studios
3D

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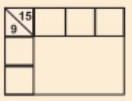
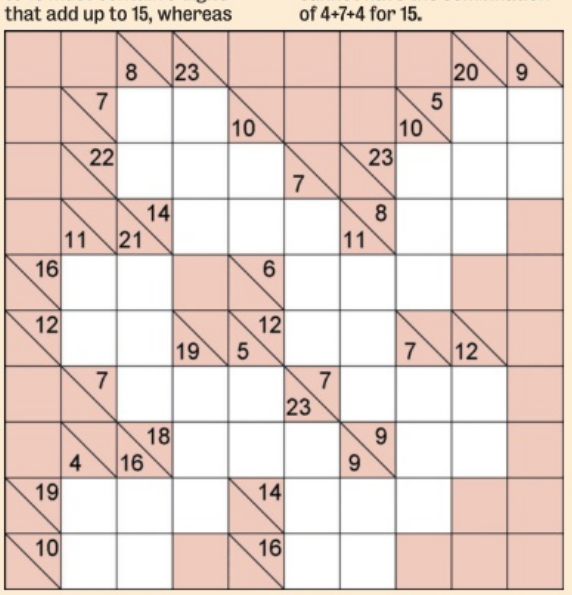
@BangaloreMirror

Kakuro

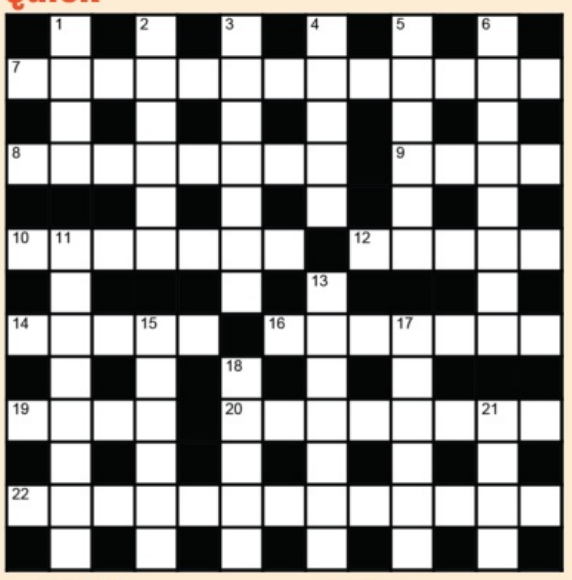
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Aryan in Dhoom 2 (7,6)
8 Cancels a previously made arrangement or order? (5,3)
9 Payment for hiring (4)
10 More dubious (7)
12 Aromatic resin (5)
14 Bangalore is divided into 198 ____ (5)
16 Excessive bureaucracy (3,4)
19 Daybreak (4)
20 Credulous, easily duped (8)
22 A random chance or a mere guess (4,2,3,4)

DOWN

1 General location (4)
2 Unemotional (6)
3 Disregard orders (7)
4 Hard work (5)
5 Bird of prey (6)
6 Tiny bit of precipitation (8)
11 Longfellow's brave (8)
13 Rich (7)
15 Give to charity (6)
17 Chinese secret societies (6)
18 Representative (5)
21 Linger furtively (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: S EQUALS G

LANLVSVFQV BO GYD VAG NZ LDAOJVQBFS NGYDAO NZ TYVG INJ QNF'G WDUBDHD INJAO-DUZ.

Linemaro

Take love, multiply it by infinity and take it to the depths of forever.. and you still have only a glimpse of how I feel for you

Mindchow

Experience teaches only the teachable

Joke of the day

Why is hot dog the noblest dog of all? Because it feeds the hand that bit it

Loop

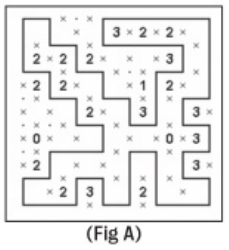
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

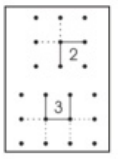
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

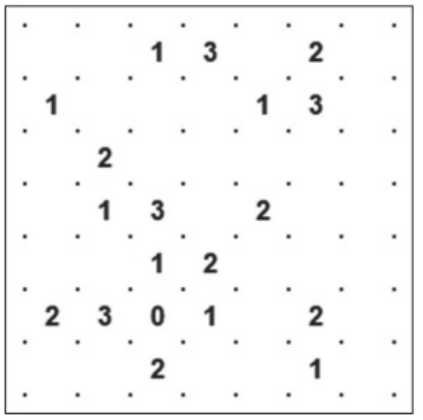
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



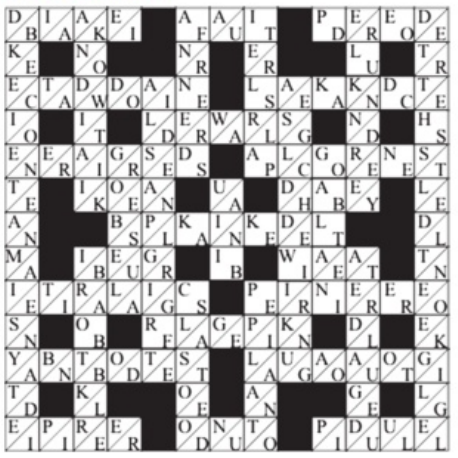
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



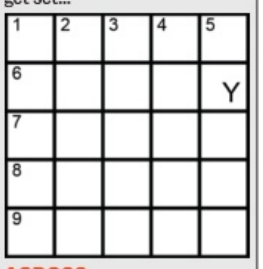
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

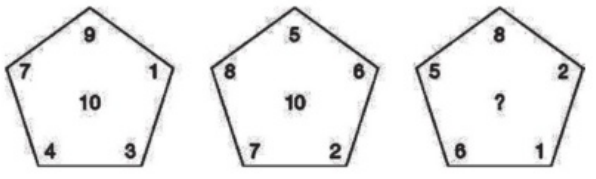
1 La rag; 6 Slay H;
7 Sod id; 8 In die;
9 Is Con

DOWN

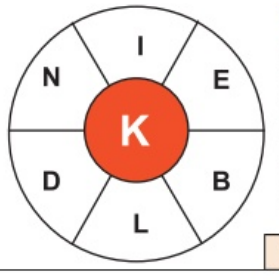
1 Sic ad; 2 Hi Ron;
3 Dig ad; 4 A lion;
5 SS Lye

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; 12 Good; 14 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	1		6					
5			3		8	4		7
	8							2
6			1	9				
	7		4		3		8	
				8	5			1
2							9	
3		5	7		6			4
					9		2	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

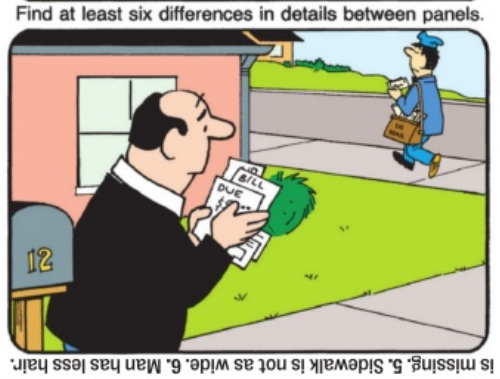
Easy = 25
2 3 6 7

Medium = 45
3 5 5 6

Hard = 10
2 4 6 2

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Mailman is moved. 2. Stripe is missing. 3. Number on mailbox is lower. 4. Patch on mailman's sleeve is missing. 5. Sidewalk is not as wide. 6. Man has less hair.

Riddler

Can you unscramble the names in Part 1 and match them with what they are famous for in Part 2? And your answer is?

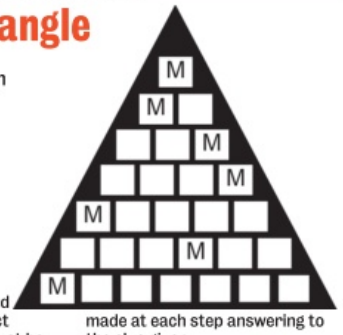
Part 1: 1. OARWDH HHGSEU 2. AYR RSELACH 3. VLSIE REELYSP

Part 2:

1. First real rock and roll star and first rock star to crossover into films.
2. Businessman, movie producer and aviator.
3. Inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame, Rock and Roll's Hall of Fame and received Life Time Achievement Award.

Alpha triangle

1 One thousand
2 Personal pronoun
3 Jewel
4 Microbe
5 Mrs. Simpson
6 Bonn resident
7 Mutilator



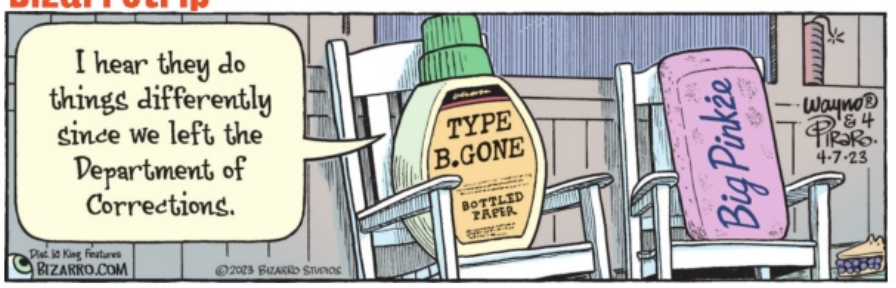
Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

I JUST FINISHED A REALLY GOOD BOOK
IT'S CALLED "HOW TO HOUSEBREAK YOUR PUPPY"
WHAT WERE THE MOST IMPORTANT CHAPTERS?
1 AND 2
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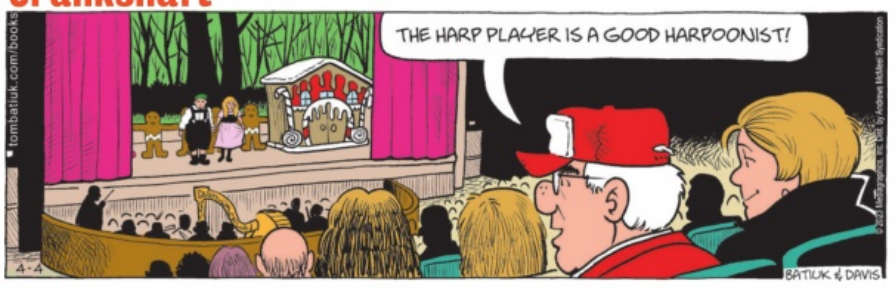
Hart of the city

HEY, DO YOU KNOW THIS KID'S NAME?
YYYEAH... YOU'RE THE GIRL WITH THE WEIRD NAME... BRAIN... LIVER...?
MY NAME IS HEART, AND IT'S VERY SWEET!
BE COOL EAT HEALTH
BE COOL EAT HEART
HEARTOFTHECITY.COM

Crankshaft



Mutts

WHAT'S UP, MOOCH?
WELL, IT'S RAINING; IT'S POURING. THE OLD MAN IS SNORING.
WHY?
HE BUMPED HIS HEAD AND WENT TO BED AND HE COULDN'T GET UP IN THE MORNING.
AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT I HEARD.
mutts.com

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may have a dull feeling. You may not enjoy your day and may be a victim of arrogance, which may affect both your professional and domestic life. Internally, you may feel a lack of confidence, which may hinder your ability to do something creative at work.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you are advised to control your straightforwardness. Your loose talking may affect people around you. You may spend your hard-earned money on buying some worthless stuff. Your mind may be likely to work very fast, so it is advised to make any important decisions with patience.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may take quick decisions that can bring benefits in your day-to-day life. You may make some difficult decisions with the help of your colleagues and may easily achieve success. Property-related disputes between siblings may also be resolved, and you can expect some short trips.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you are advised to control your straightforwardness as your loose talking may affect people around you. Be cautious about spending your hard-earned money on buying worthless stuff. Your mind may work very fast, so it is advised to make any important decisions with patience.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may not feel well as old health issues may arise, making you upset. Due to impatience and hurry, you may make some wrong decisions. It is advised to think twice before making any decision and not keep money loose, as it may lead to spending on worthless stuff.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, there may be peace in your mind. You may plan to invest some capital in the business, which can increase liquidity. Your earnings may boost your financial health, and you may enjoy romantic moments with your spouse, enhancing harmony in family life. Singles may find a suitable match, and love birds may decide to get married. Students will be blessed with good karma.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may be very happy as your losses may turn into profits. Your seniors may appreciate your work, and there may be some changes in terms of promotions, position, or responsibilities at work. Your opponents and hidden enemies may be under control. Singles and love birds may make important decisions regarding marriage with the help of relatives or friends.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon, which may bring happiness. The crunch of last week is now over, and with the blessing, you may receive recognition for your hard work. With the help of your subordinates, you may be able to initiate postponed tasks, and there may be gains in your business that boost your finances.

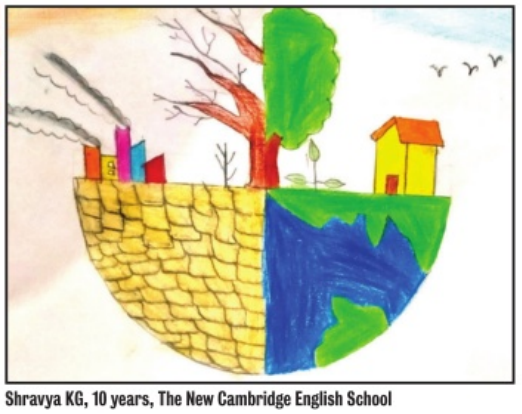
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may feel dull and have some health issues. It is advised to postpone investments in the business and not start a new venture. You may face losses in your business, and your gains may turn into losses.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon, which enables you to make quick decisions on the professional front. You may expect new opportunities in terms of business, boosting your confidence level. With the help of your partner, you are likely to start some new innovations that may increase your business in the near future.

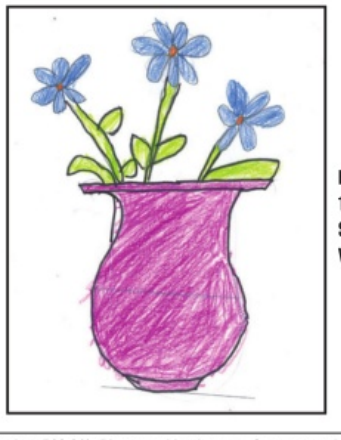
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you are blessed by the moon, and you may perform well at work. You may expect promotions or transfers that bring gains. You may also plan to change your current job, and your relations with your boss may improve. Chronic health issues will be resolved, bringing happiness to your family.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon, which gives you confidence. You may be able to make important decisions confidently and seize opportunities without a second thought. You may spend money on family and friends, and love birds can enjoy their happy moments. Job aspirants may find a suitable job with the help of friends.

KIDZONE



Shravya KG, 10 years, The New Cambridge English School



K Anagha, 10 years, Sri Rama Vidyalaya

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

RIDDLER
1. Howard Hughes – Businessman, movie producer and aviator, 2. Ray Charles – Inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame, Rock and Roll's Hall of Fame and received Life Time Achievement Award, 3. Elvis Presley – First real rock and roll star and first rock star to crossover into films

BULL'S EYE
bilk, billed, blink, BLINKED, dike, inked, kiln, kind, kindle, like, liked, liken, link, linked

FAST FIVE

A	R	G	A	L
S	H	A	L	Y
D	I	D	O	S
I	N	D	I	E
C	O	I	N	S

STRIKE OUT

D	I	K	E		F	A	T		P	R	O	D		
E		O		R		E		U		R				
C	A	D	I	E		S	E	A	N	C	E			
O		I		D	E	A	L	S		D		S		
N	E	A	R	E	D		A	C	O	R	N	S		
T		K	E	A		A		H	A	Y		E		
A		B	L	A	N	K	E	T		D				
M		B	E	G		I		W	E	T		T		
I	T	A	L	I	C		P	I	N	E	R	O		
N		B		F	A	G	I	N		L		K		
A	B	O	T	S		A	G	O	U	T	I			
D		L		E		N		G		L				
E	P	E	E		D	U	O		P	U	L	L		

QUICK

A		S		D		G		O		R				
	E		T		Y		S		K					
S	H	O		T		I		N		H	E	D	A	R
	T		A		E		T		A		U			
D		W		N		G	U	L	L	I	B	L	E	
	W		O		A			R						
W	A	R	D	S		R	E	D	T	A	P	E		
	I				Y		W			O				
S	H	A	D	I	E	R		M	Y	R	R	H		
	I		B		T		E		D					
C	A	L	L	S	O	F		R	E	N	T			
	E		O		S		A		P		I			
H	R	I	T	H	I	K	R	O	S	H	A	N		
	S		D		G		O		R					

MENSA PUZZLE
8. (9 + 7 + 1 = 17) – (4 + 3 = 7) = 10;
(8 + 5 + 6 = 19) – (7 + 2 = 9) = 10;
(5 + 8 + 2 = 15) – (6 + 1 = 7) = 8

SOLVE IN 1M
10÷–10(–13) = (–1)(–13) = 13

QUOTE UNCODE
Propaganda is the art of persuading others of what you don't believe yourself.

SUDOKU

4	1	3	6	7	2	9	5	8
5	2	9	3	1	8	4	6	7
7	8	6	9	5	4	1	3	2
6	5	8	1	9	7	2	4	3
1	7	2	4	6	3	5	8	9
9	3	4	2	8	5	6	7	1
2	6	7	8	4	1	3	9	5
3	9	5	7	2	6	8	1	4
8	4	1	5	3	9	7	2	6

ALPHA TRIANGLE
M, Me, Gem, Germ, Marge, German, Mangler.

GO FIGURE
Easy
6 + 3 x 2 + 7 = 25
Medium
3 x 5 – 6 x 5 = 45
Hard
6 x 2 + 2 – 4 = 10

LOOP

KAKURO

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 # Did somebody say Rekha?
Legendary actress Rekha will be making a special appearance on the show 'Ghum Hain Kisikey Pyaar Meiin' and will introduce the new cast of the show

WHAT MOUNI LOVES

Of course her husband, but also this...

She is the queen of many of her fans' dreams and rightly so! But did you know once Mouni Roy revealed the 'love of her life' on social media? While most of the fans would guess it as her husband Suraj Nambiar it's not the case here. There's a quirky side to it. Other than her fashion and film choices, Mouni is also known to be one of the biggest foodies out there.

Her social media timeline is replete with home-cooked food and drool-worthy dishes. The actress was once pictured enjoying our all-time favourite snack. Can you guess what it is? It's deep-fried, crunchy, salted and made with potatoes. Yes, it's potato chips. Mouni dropped a Boomerang on Stories that gave a glimpse of her packet of potato chips. She also wrote, "Love of my life." Now you understand right? Mouni Roy also enjoys healthy food inspiring others to do the same. She has always believed that healthy can be tasty too.

However, Mouni and her husband Suraj never miss a chance to dish out couple goals. While there are couples who often fear long-distance relationships, Mouni Roy and Suraj Nambiar have taken it to the next level after they tied the knot in 2022. While Mouni, as an actor works mostly in Mumbai, Suraj who's a businessman is mostly in Dubai for work. Though distance keeps them separated most of the time, they very happily manage their marital life.

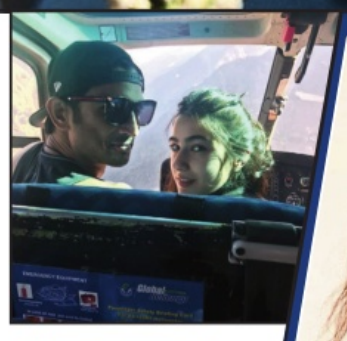
—ETimes

Keep shining, friend

On Sushant Singh Rajput's 3rd death anniversary, his co-star Sara Ali Khan penned down a sweet note for the late actor and recollected the 'Kedarnath' memories.

Bollywood actor Sushant Singh Rajput's untimely demise on June 14, 2020 left a void in the heart of his fans and family members. On Tuesday, the actor took to her Instagram handle and shared a throwback picture from the shoot diaries of her film 'Kedarnath' with Sushant Singh Rajput along with a heartfelt note.

In the note, she gave a glimpse of her 'first' moments with the late actor. "On our way to Kedarnath for the first time. On my way to shoot for the first time. And I know neither are ever going to feel the same again. But somewhere between action, cut, sunrise, rivers, clouds, moonlight, Kedarnath and Allah Hoo I know you're there. Keep shining amongst your stars. From Kedarnath to Andromeda."—ANI



Love is in the air!

Vijay Varma and Tamannaah Bhatia set tongues wagging with their hush-hush appearance at a New Year's bash in Goa. Amid this buzz, an unseen picture of the lovebirds from 2022 has gone viral. Vijay and Tamannaah were attending an event where they were clicked holding hands. Tamannaah has now kind of confirmed the relationship. When she was asked if they grew close during the shoot of 'Lust Stories', Tamannaah said she doesn't think one can get attracted to anyone just because they're your co-star. Almost confirming the claim, Tamannaah had shared, 'He's my happy place'. —IANS

Shoulder smoulder
Disha Patani sure seems to have a wardrobe filled with beautiful off-shoulder outfits

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SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Ragini's backing

The cast and crew of Agrasena are on cloud nine as they have received much encouragement from actors and playback singers of Sandalwood. Agrasena is scheduled for release on June 23.

The team of Agrasena screened the trailer and songs of the movie for Ragini Dwivedi. After watching it, Ragini said in a video message, "The song and trailer are promising and the script is very interesting. I am waiting to watch the movie at a theater on June 23."

Amar Viraj and Agasthya Belagere are the lead actors while Rachana Dasarath and Bharathi Hegde are leading ladies. Veteran character actor Ramakrishna plays a village chief in the movie. Murugesh Kannappa debuts as a director in Sandalwood with this film.

A few days ago, actor Dhananjay released the trailer of the movie and appreciated director Murugesh.

RAW for reel

Aryan Santosh also known as Aryan is busy with the launch of the title of his latest movie The Bhavani Files, is said to be a movie related to the 14th century. Ashwini Puneeth Rajkumar released the title on Wednesday.

"I am playing the lead besides working as a creative director for the movie. It will be a pan Indian movie and it is expected to go on floors from September. I am playing Agasthya, an agent of the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW). This will be the first Kannada movie to be made on RAW," said Aryan Santosh.

According to him, the movie is about gangs of Bhavani and an assistant director of Jacob Varghese would debut as a director in Sandalwood with this film. Joe Costa will compose music for this movie while Chethan D'Souza is the stunt master.

Aryan Santosh said he would reveal the details of cast and other crew during the muhurat function. "We are planning to shoot it at Chitradurga, Mysuru, and Wayanad. A hunt is on to find a suitable actress to be the heroine," he said.